

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM



LUTA SHIPYARD BUILDS
GUN RUNNERS
LUTA, CHINA

TCS-20275/68

JULY 1968

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2 PAGES

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LUTA SHIPYARD BUILDS GUN RUNNERS

On the night of 29 February - 1 March 1968, a trawler-type gun runner, carrying infiltration cargo and attempting to infiltrate South Vietnam, was engaged and sunk by South Vietnamese and U.S. naval patrol forces. The vessel (Figure 1) was evaluated to be of a high speed class specifically designed for blockade running and observed in China [REDACTED]. Additional units of this unnamed class are currently under construction at the Luta Shipyard, China at 38-55-52N 121-38-19E.

Two units of this type of vessel (Figure 2) were first observed at the fitting-out/repair wharf at Luta Shipyard in [REDACTED]. Production of these vessels was probably postponed as Shanghai PTF production was augmented from [REDACTED]. Units identical to the trawler in size and proportions have been under construction at the same yard since [REDACTED]. Available large-scale photography predates the emplacement of the superstructure and armament, thereby precluding confirmation of a class identification.

In [REDACTED] two units of this type were observed at Hsinhsing Naval Facility on Hainan Island. This facility, built during 1965 and 1966, normally serves trawler-type vessels similar in size and configuration to various vessels which have attempted to infiltrate South Vietnam.

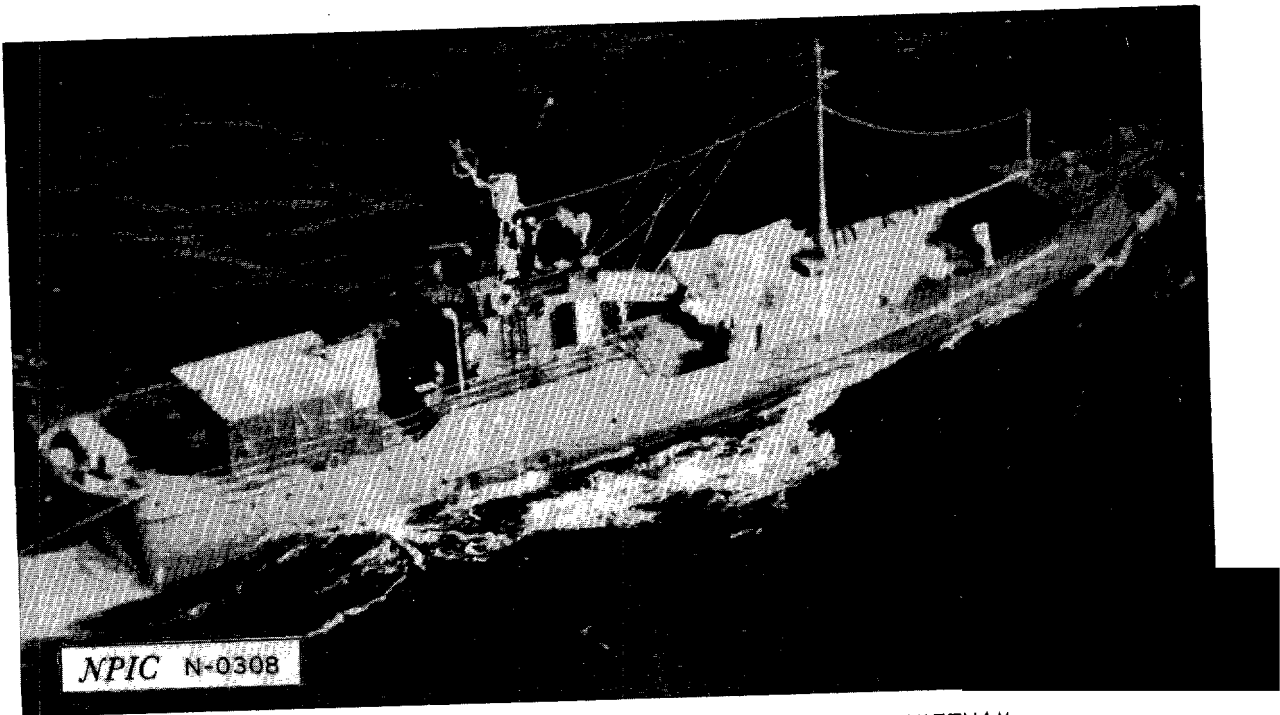
Photography of [REDACTED] revealed one unit of this type at the Chanchiang Port Facility, on the southern coast of China at 21-11N 110-23E.

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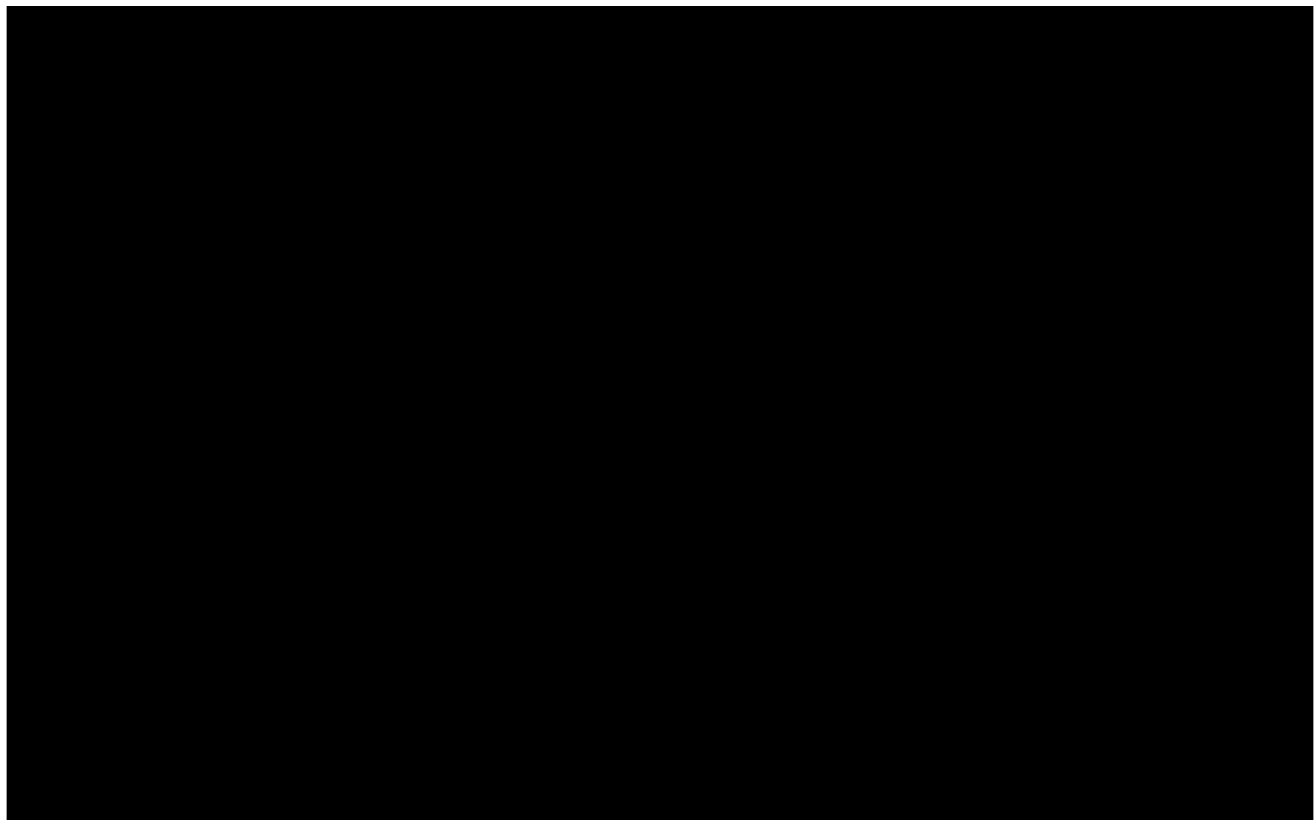
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FIGURE 1. INTERCEPTED INFILTRATION VESSEL, SOUTH VIETNAM.

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